

**The Building Code Standards Committee meeting will be  
on  
June 16, 2005 in Conference Room B  
At the  
Powers Administration Building  
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI**

**570th            Meeting   1:00 p.m..            June 16, 2005**

- 1. Call to order.**
- 2. Appeals**
- 3. Approval of Minutes of last meeting.**
- 4. Correspondence.**
- 5. Committee Reports**
- 6. Legislation**
- 7. Old Business.**
- 8. New Business.**

## **9. Adjourn**

**New Appeals: 05-08 Lawton Foster Road, N  
Hope Valley, RI**

**05-09 Lakeside Drive  
New Shoreham**

**BV – 15 Live Load Trusses**

**BV – 16 IFC Reference Deletions**

**BV – 17 Smoke/Fire Dampers**

**569th Meeting June 2, 2005**

**1. Mr. DeBlois, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.**

**2. Blanket Variance request from Wood Truss Council of America was approved. Blanket Variance BV-15 (formerly named BV 05-01). Mr. DeDentro will prepare it for signature and distribution.**

**3. The Minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted upon a motion by Mr. Newbrook and seconded by Mr. Gagnon. The Minutes were unanimously approved.**

**4. Correspondence:**

**a. Building Officials Financial Statement**

**Mr. DeDentro said he received a copy of a letter sent to the Block Island Building Official clarifying that only building officials are required to file financial statements with the Ethic Commission. Mr. DeDentro was informed that all building officials have been sent filing forms. Mr. DeDentro said there would be an Ethics seminar to be presented four separate times in July and August.**

**b. RI Builders Association Letter**

**Mr. DeDentro said he received a letter from the RI Builders Association expressing their opposition to the proposed increase in wall insulation requirements for wood frame construction proposed for the 2006 IECC code. They requested that Mr. DeDentro support**

**their position on this. Mr. DeDentro said we have time to research this before the code is adopted by the state.**

#### **c. Driftwood Apartments**

**Mr. DeDentro said he received a letter from Mr. Ward, Assistant Building Inspector in the Town of Narragansett, giving an update on the Driftwood Apartments situation. The letter indicates that the Purchase and Sales Agreement is scheduled for July 18, 2005 and the projected start date is September 2005.**

### **5. Committee Reports:**

#### **a. Certification Subcommittee**

**Mr. Maloney said the Certification Subcommittee met and interviewed Mr. Michael Mello as Building Official in the Town of Little Compton. He said the committee approved his qualifications and Mr. Mello's name was submitted for approval. Mr. Newbrook motioned Mr. Mello be approved as Building Official in the Town of Little Compton. Mr. Pagliaro seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

#### **b. Mechanical Subcommittee**

**Mr. Turner said the Mechanical Subcommittee met and agreed to recommend issuance of a blanket variance deleting the words "and**

smoke” from the damper requirements in the IBC and IMC. Mr. Cowen, staff member in the Building Commission, will prepare language for the blanket variance and it will be submitted at the next Building Code Standards Committee meeting.

## **6. Legislation:**

### **a. Repetitive Plan Approvals**

A synopsis of a proposed bill for repetitive plan approvals was sent to the Committee members. Mr. DeDentro said he does not know what the status is on this bill.

### **b. Separation of Powers Bill**

This bill was sent to the Committee members and it was discussed at the meeting. Mr. DeDentro said the Department of Administration and the Governor’s Office have problems with this and other companion legislation dealing with separation of powers. Mr. DeBlois said he was not in favor of changing the 8-member quorum to 12 members. Mr. DeDentro said he would submit a position paper indicating that this quorum change would result in the cancellation of appeals.

### **c. Bill S-1103**

Mr. DeDentro said he received a bill (S-1103) which would make

technical amendments for extending compliance dates for existing building and coordination between Building and Fire Codes. This bill also would allow the joint committee an additional year to recommend changes. Mr. Coffey said this bill allows both Fire Board and Building Board to sit in joint sessions. A copy of this bill will be enclosed in with the next Agenda. Mr. DeDentro submitted a position paper strongly supporting this bill. He said members of the Building Code Standards Committee are free to submit a position paper if they so desire.

## **7. Old Business:**

### **a. Mobile Home Update – The Browns**

Mr. DeDentro sent a copy of a newspaper article regarding Mr. & Mrs. Brown and the construction of an addition to their Mobile Home in the Big River area. Mr. DeDentro said the article states that Senator Raptakis has submitted a bill to allow the Browns to complete the addition. Mr. DeDentro said he talked to Ms. Crowley, Acting Director of Water Resources Board, and she said that the Water Resources Board is concerned that this issue will create a precedent. Mr. DeDentro said that it appears that this bill has been passed. Mr. DeDentro said that Mr. Brown may possibly return to our Board to contest any decision to deny the permit.

### **b. Building Code Standards Committee Appointments**

**Mr. DeDentro said he has received appointment papers for the following people: Mr. Durand, Mr. Maloney, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Preiss, Mr. Gaskell, Mr. Gaskell, Mr. Gagnon, Mr. DeBlois, Mr. Chabot. Mr. Turner said he has received an appointment letter also.**

**c. IFC – NFPA Blanket Variance**

**Mr. Turner said that last year we were supposed to issue a blanket variance to delete reference to IFC-NFPA but he doesn't know if it was ever issued. Mr. DeDentro said he would meet with Mr. Coffey to discuss the language for the blanket variance.**

**d. Tech Note**

**Mr. DeDentro said he has only gotten one response to the letter he wrote to all the boards regarding their opinion on the Tech Note concerning design professional. He will send another letter asking that they respond within the next 30 days.**

**8. New Business:**

**a. New Material – Straw Bale**

**Mr. Gray was present and he requested approval on a new product which is an alternate form of construction – straw bale. He explained**

that the product is a new non-bearing wall system built on post and beam frame and it is used in California and some parts of New England. Mr. Gray offered the Board members to tour an existing home within a three-hour drive. Mr. Gagnon said that since this is a one-time project and a personal dwelling and he motioned that Mr. Gray submit this as a special variance. Mr. Newbrook seconded the motion. Mr. DeDentro suggested that Mr. Gray apply for a building permit in Hopkinton, and when the permit application is denied, Mr. Gray can appeal the local Building Official's decision back to this Board for final action.

#### **9. Adjourn:**

Upon a motion by Mr. Newbrook, seconded by Mr. Gagnon the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Daniel R. DeDentro  
Executive Secretary**

**Building Code Board of Appeals**



**Members Present:** R. Brown, S. Turner, R. DeBlois, R. Stillings, D. Gagnon, W. Howe, J. Gaskell, D. Newbrook, G. Preiss, J. Maloney, J. Pagliaro, M. Stoeckel.

**Members Absent:** J. Carlson, R. Collins, G. T. Chabot, B. Davey, A. Durand, P. DePace, L. Gemma, M. Lowenstein, D. Palmisciano.

**Staff Members Present:** D. DeDentro, T. Coffey, E. Gordon

**Staff Members Absent:** None

### **Building Code Standards Committee**

**Members Present:** R. Brown, S. Turner, R. DeBlois, R. Stillings, D. Gagnon, W. Howe, J. Gaskell, D. Newbrook, G. Preiss, J. Maloney, J. Pagliaro, M. Stoeckel.

**Members Absent:** J. Carlson, R. Collins, G. T. Chabot, B. Davey, A. Durand, P. DePace, L. Gemma, M. Lowenstein, D. Palmisciano.

**Staff Members Present:** D. DeDentro, T. Coffey, E. Gordon

**Staff Members Absent:** None

**The next Committee meeting will be held on Thursday June 16, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. in Conference Room B, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.**